



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

May 8, 2008

For immediate release

- 1. Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Commission to Meet May 12 and 13**
- 2. DNR Wins Highest Engineering Award**

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION TO MEET MAY 12 AND 13

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DES MOINES – The Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Commission will have a joint meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. May 12 at the Raccoon River Park Nature Lodge, 2500 Grand Ave. in West Des Moines.

The meeting will be followed by a 6:30 p.m. dinner at the Iowa Machine Shed, 11151 Hickman Road in Urbandale.

The Environmental Protection Commission will hold its regular meeting starting at 10:00 a.m. May 13 in the DNR Air Quality Building, 7900 Hickman Road, in Urbandale. The meeting is open to the public and public comments will start at 10:30 a.m.

Highlights of the meeting will include decisions on the intended use plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan fund and proposed rules on landfill liners.

Appointments are scheduled for Greene County at 1:00 p.m. demanding a hearing on a permit for a Prestage Farms swine confinement and at 2:00 p.m. with Hawkeye Renewables.

Commissioners will also be discussing manure application on frozen ground and the status of the anti-degradation proposal.

The complete agenda follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Remarks
- Election of Officers
- Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund – FY 2008 Intended Use Plan
- Air Quality - Title V Fee SFY 2009 Budget
- Referrals to the Attorney General
 - Todd Kay (Buena Vista County) – Animal Feeding Operation
 - Hawkeye Renewables, LLC (Iowa Falls) – Wastewater
- Notice of Intended Action - Chapters 20, 21, 22, 23 25, and 33, Air Quality Program Rules – Updates, Revisions and Additions
- Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 113.2(8) “Sanitary Landfills for Municipal Solid Waste: Groundwater Protection Systems for the Disposal of Non-Hazardous Wastes”
- Proposed Rule – Chapter 101.14(2)“a” - “Solid Waste Comprehensive Planning Requirements”
- Proposed Rule – Amendments to Wastewater Rules, including Chapters 60, 62, 63, and 64
- Monthly Reports
- General Discussion
 - Regulation of application or placement of manure on frozen ground.
 - Anti-Degradation Update
- Items for Next Month's Meeting
 - June 10 – Urbandale
 - July 7-8 – Storm Lake – King's Pointe Resort
 - August 12 – Urbandale

Look for more information about the agenda items on the DNR Web site under Commissions and Boards at www.iowadnr.gov.

The members of the commission are David Petty, chair, Eldora; Charlotte Hubbell, vice chair, Des Moines; Suzanne Morrow, secretary, Storm Lake; Henry Marquard, Muscatine; Ralph Klemme, LeMars; Susan Heathcote, Des Moines; and Paul Johnson, Decorah. The director of the DNR is Richard Leopold.

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DNR WINS HIGHEST ENGINEERING AWARD

MEDIA CONTACT: Wayne Farrand at (515) 281-8877 or wayne.farrand@dnr.iowa.gov

DES MOINES – A professional engineering group recognized the DNR and a consulting firm with the highest awards at a state engineering conference in April.

The DNR contracted with MSA Professional Services of Pleasant Hill to produce manuals on five technologies that will guide small communities in successfully handling their wastewater. The DNR and MSA engineers worked closely together on the project, with the DNR and MSA providing design and monitoring criteria based on experiences in Iowa and the nation. Jason Miller was the lead engineer from MSA.

“The 2006 water quality standards and other factors have increased construction costs especially for small communities in recent years,” said Wayne Farrand at the DNR. “This technology guide could aide about 700 unsewered communities and several existing plants, especially those with populations of 25 to 250.

“These smaller communities will have some options for alternative methods of wastewater treatment and disposal which may be less expensive,” he added.

Lead by MSA and its experts, the team developed design guidance that private engineers can use. The technologies include alternative sewer systems, wetlands, mounds and sand filter systems and drip dispersal.

“We’re very proud of the work of MSA and our engineers,” said Richard Leopold, DNR Director. “Developing affordable options that give communities more viable technologies to choose from allows us to see some real progress in water quality improvements.”

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Iowa presented the DNR and MSA Professional Services with the Grand Conceptor Award. This award is the top honor presented at the 2008 Iowa Engineering Excellence Awards banquet selected from the winners in four categories. The DNR and MSA also won the Grand Place Award in the special projects category.

Director Leopold plans to honor the engineers at a team meeting in May.

The DNR engineers who worked on the project include:

Billy Chen, P.E.
Butch Doorenbos, P.E.
Emy Liu, PhD, P.E.
Gabe Lee, P.E.
James Hallmark, P.E.
Larry Bryant, P.E.
Michael Chyi, PhD, P.E.
Satya Chennupati, P.E.

Suresh Kumar
Terry Kirschenman, P.E.
Wayne Farrand, P.E., Section Supervisor

Leopold added that the DNR staff has presented the information in the manuals to consulting engineers at several locations so that they can plan and design alternative wastewater treatment projects that will meet state requirements.

About 200 consulting engineers and community planners have attended sessions that they've offered. The manuals are available on the DNR website at www.iowadnr.gov/water/wastewater/design_guidance.html Or, CDs are available by contacting Wayne Farrand at (515) 281- 8877 or Satya Chennupati at (515) 281-8995.

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